

Chair Golden, and members of the committee:

As a family member of a home lost in the Holiday Farm Fire, I support SB 405.

With regard to a question raised in the February 24th committee discussion about rules, I want to warn against making requirements for completion deadlines in addition to the commencing deadlines.

Surely you don't want to add new rules that have not been imposed in the past. Doing so would add to the confusion and the pressure of potentially successful efforts to rebuild homes and communities.

How do you measure the moment of completion? Is it when the roof is on, skin is enclosed and windows installed? What about insulation, cabinets and countertops? Sheetrock and trim? Some plumbing fixtures not hooked up? Paint and outlet covers? Is it when an occupancy permit is granted?

How do you determine a reasonable allotment of time for completion? How do you allow for DIY work schedules and tight budgets? For folks who work two jobs while bartering for materials and getting occasional help from friends? What about disruption from illness or injury? And what about the needs of animals, or elderly family members, or children, or of your self employment? Do such rules discriminate against the poorest among us?

In the wildfire areas, many properties have passed down through generations in families. People are underemployed or underpaid or single parents.... It's complicated. Recovery from the catastrophic disaster is already debilitating. We already have health and safety-related rules regarding occupancy in place. New road blocks should not be created.

I support SB 405 as it was presented. Please don't burden it with unprecedented completion date requirements.

Thank you,
Faun Hosey